



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/829,937	04/11/2001	David A. Bolnick	5957-71800	7702

7590 05/19/2006

B Noel Kivlin
Meyertons Hood Kivlin Kowert & Goetzel P C
P O Box 398
Austin, TX 78767-0398

EXAMINER

TRUONG, LAN DAI T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2152

DATE MAILED: 05/19/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/829,937	BOLNICK ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Lan-Dai Thi Truong	2152	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 03 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02/17/2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-35 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 1-14 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 15-35 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 21 June 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 02/21/2006 has been entered.

2. This action is response to communications: application, filed on 06/06/2001; amendment filed 02/21/2006. Claims 1-35 are pending; claims 1-14 are cancelled; claims 15-35 are added.

3. The applicant's arguments file on 02/21/2006 have fully considered but they are moot in view with new ground for rejections

Claim rejections-35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

Claims 15-17, 20 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Liu et al. (U.S. 6,839,680), “Liu”, herein after.

Regarding to claim 15:

Liu discloses a system, which can be implemented in a computer hardware or software code for permitting sharing of personal information over a network, comprising:

A server configured to receive, via said network, user profile information from a first plurality of network users: (Liu discloses a ProReach system includes a ProReach-enable Web server used by e-commerce businesses for collections “consumer activity profiles” which equivalent to “user profile information”: column 4, lines 1-67)

A database sub-system configured to store said user profile information received from said first plurality of network users: (Liu discloses a profile database ‘720’ for storing received “consumer activity profiles:” figure 7e, item 720; column 18, lines 50-67)

Wherein said system is configured to generate cumulative aggregate user profile information from said user profile information received from said first plurality of network users, and wherein said system is configured to provide said cumulative aggregate user profile information to a first plurality of business entities: (Liu discloses the consumer activity profiles are aggregated into a set of aggregated results and sent them to e-commerce business as the needs: column 4, lines 1-67)

Regarding to claim 16:

Liu discloses a method as discuss in claim 15, which further includes wherein said system is web-based, wherein said system includes a web server coupled to said network, and wherein said web server is configured to provide said cumulative aggregate user profile information to

Art Unit: 2152

said first plurality of business entities via one or more web pages: (Liu discloses the ProReach system used by e-commerce businesses. So Liu's system should be web-based: column 4, lines 1-67)

Regarding to claim 17:

Liu discloses a method as discuss in claim 16, which further includes an application server coupled to said web server, wherein said application server is configured to generate said cumulative aggregate user profile information from said user profile information received from said first plurality of network users: (Liu discloses the web event records are aggregated into a set of aggregated results and sent them to e-commerce business as the needs: column 4, lines 1-67)

Regarding to claim 20:

Liu discloses a method as discuss in claim 15, which further includes wherein said server is further configured to receive additional user profile information from a second plurality of business entities, wherein said additional user profile information corresponds to a second plurality of network users, wherein said system is configured to generate said cumulative aggregate user profile information from said user profile information received from said first plurality of network users and said additional user profile information received from said second plurality of business entities, and wherein said system is configured to provide said cumulative aggregate user profile information to a second plurality of business entities: (Liu discloses the ProReach system used by e-commerce businesses to record user's web events. And then the ProReach system aggregated user's web events into a set of aggregated results and sent them to e-commerce business as the needs: column 4, lines 1-67)

Regarding to claim 32:

A computer-based method for sharing personal information over a network, comprising: receiving, via said network, user profile information from a first plurality of network users; storing said user profile information received from said first plurality of network users in a database; generating cumulative aggregate user profile information from said user profile information received from said first plurality of network users; and providing, via said network, said cumulative aggregate user profile to a first plurality of business entities

This claim is rejected under the rationale of the rejections presented in claim 15

Claims 28-31 and 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by West et al. (U.S. 6,175,833), “West”, herein after.

Regarding to claim 28:

West discloses a system, which can be implemented in a computer hardware or software code for permitting sharing of personal information over a network, comprising:

A server configured to receive voting information from a plurality of network users: (West discloses survey server receives voting information from a plurality of voters: abstract, lines 3-5; column 1, lines 6-10; column 5, lines 43-46; figure 1, items 26 and 42; figure 3, items 42, 70, 72, 74, 76 and 78)

A database sub-system configured to store said voting information: (West discloses a database system that collects votes cast by voters: column 1, lines 6-10)

Wherein said system is configured to compile voting results based at least in part upon said voting information received from said plurality of network users, and wherein said system is configured to display said voting results to said plurality of network users: (West discloses a

Art Unit: 2152

database system that collects votes cast by voters. The Web server then adds the votes to other votes and compiles the voting results. The voting results is returned to “the voters” which is equivalent to “network users”: column 1, lines 6-10, 46-54)

Regarding to claim 29:

West discloses a method as discuss in claim 28, which further includes a web server coupled to said network, and wherein said web server is configured to receive said voting information via one or more web pages: (West discloses online voting system includes Web-server collects voting information form online voters; wherein the online voters use Web browsers to access Web-server to provide their voting information: column 1, lines 6-10, 46-54; column 3, lines 39-67)

Regarding to claim 30:

West discloses a method as discuss in claim 29, which further includes an application server coupled to said web server, wherein said application server is configured to compile said voting results from said voting information received via said web server: (West discloses the voting information is compiled in order to get voting results: column 1, lines 45-54)

Regarding to claim 31:

West discloses a method as discuss in claim 30, which further includes wherein said web server is configured to display said voting results via one or web pages: (West discloses the survey index table contains voting results is replicated onto “a live site” which is equivalent to “web page” periodically, allowing “editors” which is equivalent to “business entities” time to preview their surveys: column 1, lines 45-54: column 2, lines 48-51, 66-67; column 5, lines 8-11; column 6, lines 42-67)

Regarding to claim 34:

A computer-based method for voting over a network, comprising: receiving, via said network, voting information from a plurality of network users; storing said voting information in a database; compiling voting results based at least in part upon said voting information received from said plurality of network users; displaying said voting results to said plurality of network users via said network.

This claim is rejected under the rationale of the rejections presented in claim 28

Claim rejections-35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or descry
bed as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 21 and 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as being un-patentable over Liu in view of West and further in view of Anthias et al. (U.S. 4,845,644)

Regarding to claim 21:

Liu discloses a system, which can be implemented in a computer hardware or software code for permitting sharing of personal information over a network, comprising:

A server configured to receive, via said network, pushed content personalized to a first user, wherein said pushed content personalized to said first user is pushed from a first plurality of business entities associated with said first user: (Liu discloses a ProReach system includes the ProReach-enable Web server used by e-commerce businesses for collections “consumer activity profiles” which is equivalent to “pushed contents”: column 4, lines 1-67)

A database sub-system configured to store said pushed content personalized to said first user: (Liu discloses a profile database ‘720’ for storing received “consumer activity profiles” which are equivalent to “pushed content” of “web visitors” which is equivalent to “network users:” figure 7e, item 720; column 18, lines 50-67)

However, Liu does not explicitly disclose the system is configured to display pushed content from at least two of said first plurality of business entities as part of said graphical interface and displaying said graphical interface to said first user

In analogous art, West discloses web-base environment is employed for communications between Web server and client-based Web browsers; wherein “editors” which is equivalent to “business entities” create survey questions and view the survey results from “live site” which is equivalent to “graphical interface.” The Web server also can retrieve “voted results” which is equivalent to “pushed content” from the survey database to insert them into Web page, and downloads the Web page with survey in HTML format to the client computers: (column 9, lines 1-48; column 3, lines 55-67; column 4, lines 1-50)

Thus, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine West’s ideas of using graphic interface for interacting between

Art Unit: 2152

communication system with online users with Liu's system in order to provide convenient communication system for online users

However, Liu- West does not explicitly disclose concurrently displaying pushed content from at least two of said first plurality of business entities as part of said graphical interface

In analogous art, Anthias discloses many results are displayed into single screen, see (abstract, lines 1-18)

Thus, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine Anthias's ideas of displaying many results in single screen with Liu- West's system in order to provide convenient displaying presentations

Regarding to claim 33:

A computer-based method for sharing personal information over a network, comprising: receiving, via said network, pushed content personalized to a first user from a first plurality of business entities associated with said first user; storing said pushed content personalized to said first user in a database; generating a graphical interface using said pushed content from said first plurality of business entities; and displaying said graphical interface to said first user, wherein said displaying includes concurrently displaying pushed content from at least two of said first plurality of business entities to said first user.

This claim is rejected under the rationale of the rejections presented in claim 21

Regarding to claim 22:

Liu-West-Anthias discloses a method as discuss in claim 21, which further includes wherein said system is web-based, wherein said system includes a web server coupled to said

Art Unit: 2152

network, and wherein said web server is configured to display said graphical interface to said first user via one or more web pages, see (West: column 9, lines 1-48)

Thus, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine West's ideas of using graphic interface for interacting between communication system with online users with Liu-Anthias's system in order to provide convenient communication system for online users

Regarding to claim 23:

Liu-West-Anthias discloses a method as discuss in claim 22, which further includes an application server coupled to said web server, wherein said application server is configured to generate said graphical interface from said pushed content received from said first plurality of business entities, (West discloses "survey server" which is equivalent to "application server" retrieves the appropriate survey information from survey database and inserts them into "the Web page" which is equivalent to "graphical interface" which is then displayed to the voters: column 9, lines 1-48)

Thus, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine West's ideas of using graphic interface for interacting between communication system with online users with Liu-Anthias's system in order to provide convenient communication system for online users

Regarding to claim 24:

Liu-West-Anthias discloses a method as discuss in claim 21, which is further includes additional content as part of said graphical interface, wherein said additional content is personalized to said first user in response to information received by said server from said first

Art Unit: 2152

user: (West discloses online voting system has a survey database to store multiple surveys over a network; wherein “editors” which is equivalent to “second business entities” can create questions and receive reader’s surveys. Then the editor can view the survey results from live site: column 6, lines 48-52)

Thus, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine West’s ideas of using graphic interface for interacting between communication system with online users with Liu-Anthias’s system in order to provide convenient communication system for online users

Regarding to claim 27:

Liu-West-Anthias discloses a method as discuss in claim 21, which is further includes wherein said system is configured to display said graphical interface to said first user in response to said first user signing on to said system: (West discloses authorizing tool is used to create a new entry for the survey index table: column 7, lines 1-32)

Thus, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine West’s ideas of using graphic interface for interacting between communication system with online users with Liu-Anthias’s system in order to provide convenient communication system for online users

Claim 35 is rejected under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as being un-patentable over West in view of Willard (U.S. 5,821,508)

Regarding to claim 35:

West discloses the invention substantially as disclosed in claim 34, but does not explicitly teach a total number of network users are permitted to submit said voting information

In analogous art, Willard discloses maximum numbers of votes are allowed to be recorded, see (Willard: column 9, lines 1-6)

Thus, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine Willard's ideas of maximum numbers of votes are allowed to be recorded with Liu-Anthias's system in order to provide an efficient voting system

Claims 18-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as being un-patentable over Liu in view of Giljum et al. (U.S. 6,745,238)

Regarding to claims 18-19:

West discloses the invention substantially as disclosed in claim 15, but does not explicitly teach wherein said system is further configured to Accept sharing control information from users in said first plurality of network users:

Giljum discloses the viewing of web site contents or items is controlled by web owners: column 4, lines 6-29)

Thus, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine Giljum's ideas of authorization for sharing web site contents or items with other participants with Liu's system in order to provide efficient voting system.

Claims 25-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as being un-patentable over Liu-West-Anthias in view of Giljum et al. (U.S. 6,745,238)

Regarding to claims 25-26:

Liu-West-Anthias discloses the invention substantially as disclosed in claim 21, but does not explicitly teach configuring to share Personal's information of said first user with one or more designated users of said-network, wherein said system is configured to share said personal

Art Unit: 2152

information of said first user based at least in part upon sharing control information provided by said first user to said system:

In analogous art, Giljum discloses the viewing of web site contents or items is controlled by web owners: column 4, lines 6-29)

Thus, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine Giljum's ideas of authorization for sharing web site contents or items with other participants with Liu-West-Anthias's system in order to provide efficient voting system.

Conclusions

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lan-Dai Thi Truong whose telephone number is 571-272-7959. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday- Friday from 8:30am to 5:00 pm.

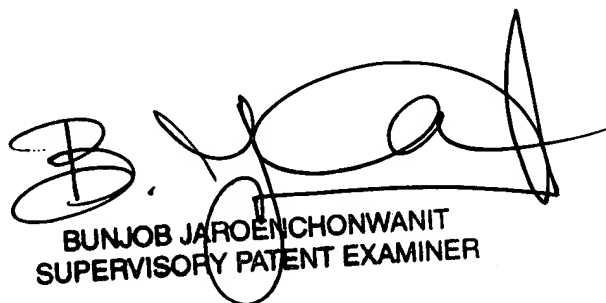
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bunjob A. Jaroenchonwanit can be reached on 571-272-3913. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2152

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Ldt

05/07/2006



BUNJOB JAROENCHONWANIT
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER